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going to make this a requirement that out of the way of compassion to see that people who are operating under those certificates would have four years from the date of implementation by the State Department of Education to follow through and receive their degree. If the State Department requires that. I'd like to make it clear the bill does not provide the setting of a baccalaureate degree, the committee has built in for some protection for those people in case they make that a requirement. I move the adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Is there any discussion on the Lewis motion? Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am not objecting to the committees amendments but I would like to make it a matter of record that I hope the State Board of Education will not so interpret the hardship provisions in there that they really open the whole process back up and gut the intent of the Stoney bill.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? Voting on the amendment to LB 122. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on motion to adopt.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the present time the State Board of Education has the responsibility of establishing and adopting appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures governing the issuance of teaching certificates. The Board, however, at the present time may not require more than two years of college preparation for those who teach in class I and in grade K-6 in class II schools. The intent of this bill seeks to correct a situation which provides that some school children must be taught by fully qualified teachers while others might be taught by teachers who are not nearly as qualified. Prior to 1963, at the time the present legislation was adopted, our requirements for teaching certificates were stipulated by law. The rigidity of the statutes made it necessary for the Department of Education to deny certificates to many qualified persons during a dire teacher shortage. The '63 legislation gave the Department the necessary flexibility and has served the state very well. The teacher shortage in 1963 might have justified the provision that allowed teachers in certain schools to teach without baccalaureate degrees, but since we now have a surplus of teachers, one would be hard pressed to defend such a provision. An adequate number of fully qualified teachers is available to staff all Nebraska schools. About 2/3 of the teachers in class I schools, at the present time, have baccalaureate degrees. I think that LB 122 represents sound educational planning. It can eliminate legal discrimination against children, and this is what we're talking about, the children in this state. It recognizes a change in the times reflected by an abundance of fully qualified teachers and it provides for an orderly transition to a new, improved system of teacher certification. I would move that LB 122 be moved to E & R initial.